Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 IO-13 /079 W

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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, ET, SO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN MEDIA CLAIM PEOPLE'S MILITIA KILLED

SOMALI SOLDIERS

REF: ADDIS ABABA 4345 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: JULY 19 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED FOR FIRST TIME CLASHES BETWEEN MILITIA MEN AND "INFILTRATING SOMALI TROOPS" IN FOUR HARRARGHE DISTRICTS SURROUNDING DIRE DAWA AND IN SIDAMO PROVINCE. END SUMMARY.

1. HERALD CLAIMED SEVERAL SOMALIA GOVT SOLDIERS
WIPED OUT AND FOUR CAPTURED IN CHELENKO SUB-DISTRICT OF
WOBERA "AWRAJA" (DISTRICT) MAJOR STRONGHOLD DEMOLISHED
AT WODIESSA (WOBERA), AND OTHER SOMALI GOVT
SOLDIERS LIQUIDATED IN CHIRA SUB-DISTRICT OF CHERCHER,
IN ADAL AND GARA-GURACHA AWRAJAS BY TASK FORCE COMPRISING
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MILITIA MEMBERS AND MEN-IN-UNIFORM. IT ALSO REPORTED WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS PROVIDING FOOD AND OTHER NECESSITIES TO MILITIAMEN.

2. IN SEPARATE ENGAGEMENT, REPORTEDLY LAST WEEK, PEOPLE'S MILITIA OF YABELLO (SIDAMO) KILLED "NUMEROUS" INFILTRATING SOMALI SOLDIERS IN ARERO AWRAJA. (YABELLO

210KM NORTH OF ETHIOPIAN-KENYAN BORDER TOW OF MOYALE.)

3. COMMENT: IT NOT CERTAIN WHETHER MILITIA INVOLVED IN REPORTED CLASHES WITH SOMALIS ARE THOSE RECENTLY SENT TO FIELD OR LOCAL MILITIA ALREADY IN-PLACE. APPARENT MILITIA DEPENDENCE ON LOCAL POPULACE FOR FOOD COULD BE FORESHADOWING THAT EPMG PLANS TO SOLVE ITS LIGISTICAL SUPPLY PROBLEM IN THIS FASHION, CREATING POSSIBLE CAUSE FOR LOCAL ALIENATION, IF CAMPAIGN IS PROLONGED. TIENKEN

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